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APPLICATION NO.	FILING DATE	FIRST NAMED INVENTOR	ATTORNEY DOCKET NO.	CONFIRMATION NO.
10/064,658	08/05/2002	Takayuki Sato	IP218007US	3729
28017	7590	03/03/2006	EXAMINER	
RYUKA 1-24-12 SHINJUKU, SIXTH FLOOR TOSHIN BUILDING, SHINJUKU-KU TOKYO, 160-0022 JAPAN			TRAN, ELLEN C	
			ART UNIT	PAPER NUMBER
			2134	

DATE MAILED: 03/03/2006

Please find below and/or attached an Office communication concerning this application or proceeding.

Office Action Summary	Application No. 10/064,658	Applicant(s) SATO ET AL.	
	Examiner Ellen C. Tran	Art Unit 2134	

-- The MAILING DATE of this communication appears on the cover sheet with the correspondence address --
Period for Reply

A SHORTENED STATUTORY PERIOD FOR REPLY IS SET TO EXPIRE 3 MONTH(S) OR THIRTY (30) DAYS, WHICHEVER IS LONGER, FROM THE MAILING DATE OF THIS COMMUNICATION.

- Extensions of time may be available under the provisions of 37 CFR 1.136(a). In no event, however, may a reply be timely filed after SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- If NO period for reply is specified above, the maximum statutory period will apply and will expire SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- Failure to reply within the set or extended period for reply will, by statute, cause the application to become ABANDONED (35 U.S.C. § 133). Any reply received by the Office later than three months after the mailing date of this communication, even if timely filed, may reduce any earned patent term adjustment. See 37 CFR 1.704(b).

Status

- 1) ☒ Responsive to communication(s) filed on 05 August 2002.
 2a) ☐ This action is FINAL. 2b) ☒ This action is non-final.
 3) ☐ Since this application is in condition for allowance except for formal matters, prosecution as to the merits is closed in accordance with the practice under *Ex parte Quayle*, 1935 C.D. 11, 453 O.G. 213.

Disposition of Claims

- 4) ☒ Claim(s) 1-18 is/are pending in the application.
 4a) Of the above claim(s) _____ is/are withdrawn from consideration.
 5) ☐ Claim(s) _____ is/are allowed.
 6) ☒ Claim(s) 1-18 is/are rejected.
 7) ☐ Claim(s) _____ is/are objected to.
 8) ☐ Claim(s) _____ are subject to restriction and/or election requirement.

Application Papers

- 9) ☐ The specification is objected to by the Examiner.
 10) ☐ The drawing(s) filed on _____ is/are: a) ☐ accepted or b) ☐ objected to by the Examiner.
 Applicant may not request that any objection to the drawing(s) be held in abeyance. See 37 CFR 1.85(a).
 Replacement drawing sheet(s) including the correction is required if the drawing(s) is objected to. See 37 CFR 1.121(d).
 11) ☐ The oath or declaration is objected to by the Examiner. Note the attached Office Action or form PTO-152.

Priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119

- 12) ☒ Acknowledgment is made of a claim for foreign priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119(a)-(d) or (f).
 a) ☒ All b) ☐ Some * c) ☐ None of:
 1. ☒ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received.
 2. ☒ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received in Application No. 10/064,658.
 3. ☒ Copies of the certified copies of the priority documents have been received in this National Stage application from the International Bureau (PCT Rule 17.2(a)).
 * See the attached detailed Office action for a list of the certified copies not received.

Attachment(s)

- | | |
|--|---|
| 1) <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Notice of References Cited (PTO-892) | 4) <input type="checkbox"/> Interview Summary (PTO-413)
Paper No(s)/Mail Date. _____ |
| 2) <input type="checkbox"/> Notice of Draftsperson's Patent Drawing Review (PTO-948) | 5) <input type="checkbox"/> Notice of Informal Patent Application (PTO-152) |
| 3) <input type="checkbox"/> Information Disclosure Statement(s) (PTO-1449 or PTO/SB/08)
Paper No(s)/Mail Date _____ | 6) <input type="checkbox"/> Other: _____ |

DETAILED ACTION

1. This action is responsive to communication: an original application filed 5 August 2002, with acknowledgement of foreign priority date of 23 August 2001.
2. Claims 1-18 are currently pending in this application. Claims 1, 15, and 18 are independent claims.

Claim Rejections - 35 USC § 102

3. The following is a quotation of the appropriate paragraphs of 35 U.S.C. 102 that form the basis for the rejections under this section made in this Office action:

A person shall be entitled to a patent unless –

(e) the invention was described in (1) an application for patent, published under section 122(b), by another filed in the United States before the invention by the applicant for patent or (2) a patent granted on an application for patent by another filed in the United States before the invention by the applicant for patent, except that an international application filed under the treaty defined in section 351(a) shall have the effects for purposes of this subsection of an application filed in the United States only if the international application designated the United States and was published under Article 21(2) of such treaty in the English language.

4. **Claims 1-18** are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 102(e) as being anticipated by King by US Patent No. 6,948,090 (hereinafter '090).

As to independent claim 1, “An interconnecting device which interconnects communication in a computer network to which plural communication devices connect, comprising:” is taught in '090 col. 2, lines 42-44 (note the ‘interconnecting device’ is interpreted to have the same meaning as ‘processing unit’);

“a first holding unit which holds a memory storing thereon device identifiers” is shown in '090 col. 3, lines 52-56;

“a reading unit operatively connecting to said first holding unit said reading unit reading a first device identifier of a first communication device of the communication devices, which is allowed to communicate in the computer network, from the memory held

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by said first holding unit” is disclosed in ‘090 col. 2, lines 44-46 (Note the first communication device is interpreted to have the same meaning a ‘portable storage device, i.e. smartcard’ this interpretation is from applicant’s specification paragraph 0031.);

“and; a setting unit operatively connecting to said reading unit, said setting unit setting a communication setting of the computer network to allow the first communication device identified by said first device identifier to communicate in the computer network” is taught in ‘090 col. 2, lines 46-49.

As to dependent claim 2, “wherein the memory unit stores therein the encrypted first device identifier and the interconnecting device further comprising a decoder connecting to said reading unit, which decodes the encrypted first device identifier read by said reading unit” is shown in ‘090 col. 11, lines 29-65.

As to dependent claim 3, “wherein said setting unit sets the interconnecting device to allow the first communication device identified by the first device identifier to communicate in the interconnecting device” is disclosed in ‘090 col. 12, lines 9-49.

As to dependent claim 4, “wherein said setting unit further sets a bandwidth, in the interconnecting device, of communication of the first device communication device identified by the first device identifier” is taught in ‘090 col. 9, lines 28-49.

As to dependent claim 5, “further comprising a transmitting unit which transmits the first device identifier to another interconnecting device, connecting with the interconnecting device, thereby to allow the first communication device identified by the first identifier to communicate in the other interconnecting device” is shown in ‘090 col. 13, line 65 through col. 14 line 29.

As to dependent claim 6, “wherein the other interconnecting device connects the computer network and another computer network, and said transmitting unit transmits the first device identifier to the other interconnecting device thereby to allow the first communication device identified by the first identifier to communicate in the other computer network” is shown in ‘090 col. 4, lines 28-49.

As to dependent claim 7, “further comprising a transmitting unit operatively connecting to said setting unit and transmitting the first device identifier to a management apparatus of the computer network which manages the computer network to allow the first communication device identified by the first device identifier to communicate in the computer network” is taught in ‘090 col. 9, lines 28-49.

As to dependent claim 8, “further comprising a second holding unit operatively connecting to said reading unit and holding a memory, wherein said reading unit reads a second device identifier of a second communication device of the plural communication devices, which is allowed to communicate in the computer network, from the memory held by said second holding unit; and said setting unit sets the communication setting of the computer network to allow the second communication device identified by the second device identifier to communicate in the computer network” is shown in ‘090 col. 13, line 65 through col. 14 line 29.

As to dependent claim 9, “wherein said setting units sets the interconnecting device to allow the first communication device identified by the first device identifier to communicate in the interconnecting device, and sets the interconnecting device to allow the

second communication device identified by the second device identifier to communicate in the interconnecting device” is disclosed in ‘090 col. 13, line 65 through col. 14 line 29.

As to dependent claim 10, “further comprising a first connection port to which the first communication device connects and a second connection port to which the second communication device connects, wherein said setting unit set the interconnecting device to allow communication of the first communication device at said first connection port and the second communication device at said second connection port” is taught in ‘090 col. 9, lines 4-49.

As to dependent claim 11, “wherein said setting unit further sets a bandwidth of communication at both said first connection port and said second connection port” is shown in ‘090 col. 9, lines 4-49.

As to dependent claim 12, “further comprising: a storage unit which stores therein a device identifier of at least one communication device, the device identifier allowing the communication device to communicate in the interconnecting device; and a communication controller connecting to said storage unit and restricting access to the interconnecting device from a communication device which is not allowed to communicate in the interconnecting device, based on the device identifier stored in said storage unit” is disclosed in ‘090 col. 12, lines 9-16.

As to dependent claim 13, “wherein said setting unit stores in said storage unit the first device identifier read from said reading unit so as to allow the first communication device identified by the first device identifier read from said reading unit to communicate in the interconnecting device” is taught in ‘090 col. 13, lines 10-32.

As to dependent claim 14, “further comprising a plurality of connection ports to which a plurality of communication devices connect respectively, wherein said storage unit stores therein a device identifier of at least one of the communication devices, the device identifier allowing the communication device to communicate at a corresponding connection port out of said plurality of connection ports, which correspond to a plurality of communication devices respectively” is shown in ‘090 col. 9, lines 28-44.

As to independent claim 15 “A computer readable medium storing thereon a communication setting program for a interconnecting device, which sets a communication setting of a computer network, the program comprising:” is taught in ‘090 col. 2, lines 42-44;

“a reading module which allows the interconnecting device to read a device identifier of a communication device, which is allowed to communicate in the computer network, from a removable nonvolatile memory” is shown in ‘090 col. 3, lines 52-56;

“and a setting module which allows the interconnecting device to set a communication setting of the computer network to allow the communication device identified by the device identifier to communicate in the computer network” is disclosed in ‘090 col. 2, lines 45-49.

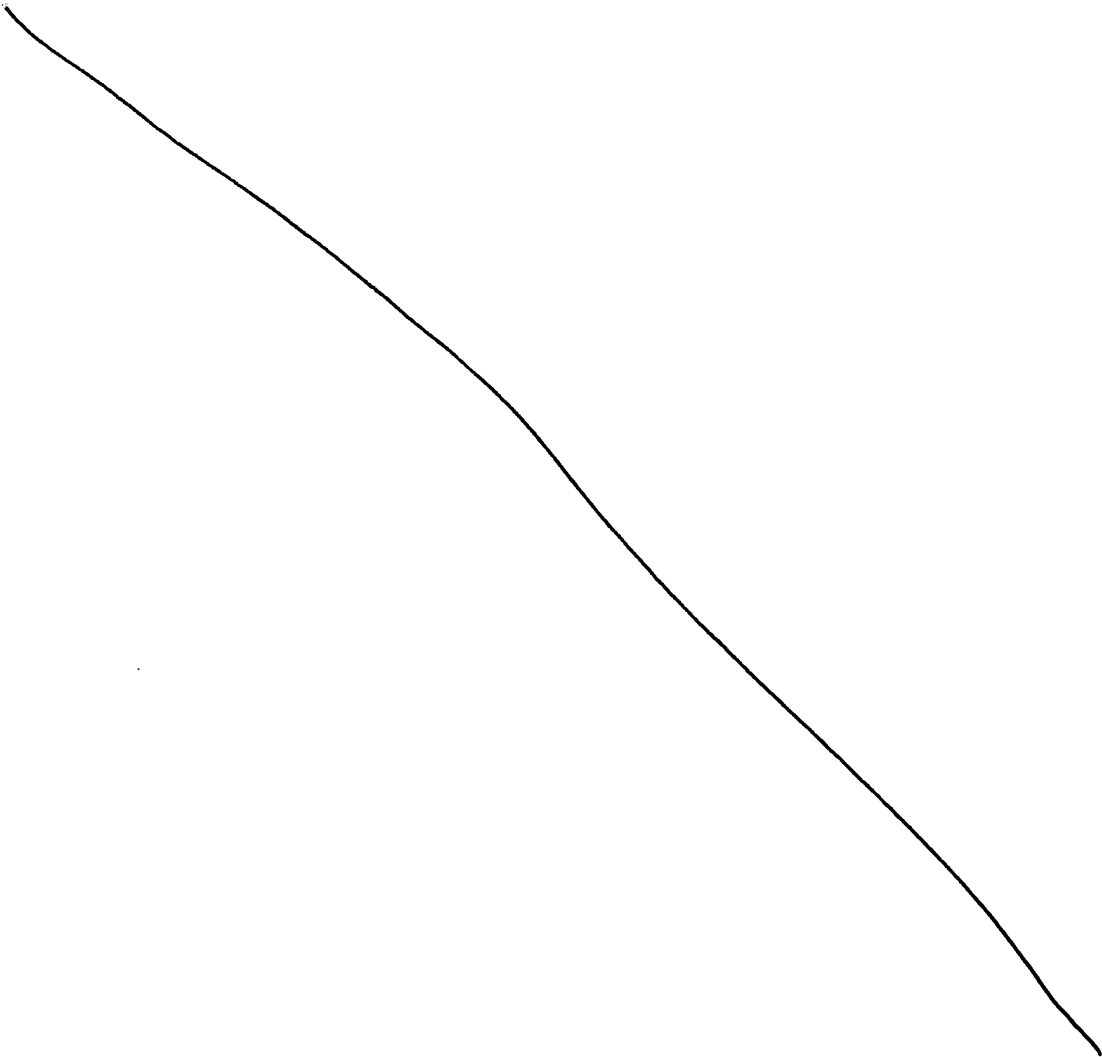
As to dependent claim 16, “wherein said setting module sets the interconnecting device to allow the communication device identified by the device identifier to communicate in the interconnecting device” is shown in ‘090 col. 12, lines 9-49.

As to dependent claim 17, this claim is substantially similar to claim 5; therefore it is rejected along similar rationale.

As to independent claim 18, “A communication setting method of the computer network by the interconnecting device, which interconnects communication in the computer network, comprising steps of:” is taught in ‘090 col. 2, lines 42-44;

“holding a memory, reading from the memory a device identifier of a communication device, which is allowed to communicate in the computer network” is shown in ‘090 col. 3, lines 52-56;

“and setting a communication setting of the computer network to allow the communication device identified by the device identifier to communicate in the computer network” is disclosed in ‘090 col. 2, lines 45-49.



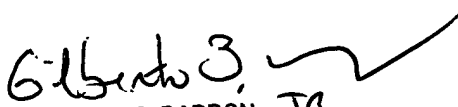
Conclusion

5. Any inquiry concerning this communication or earlier communications from the examiner should be directed to Ellen C Tran whose telephone number is (571) 272-3842. The examiner can normally be reached from 6:00 am to 2:30 pm.

If attempts to reach the examiner by telephone are unsuccessful, the examiner's supervisor, Gilberto Barron can be reached on (571) 272-3799. The fax phone number for the organization where this application or proceeding is assigned is (571) 273-8300.

Information regarding the status of an application may be obtained from the Patent Application Information Retrieval (PAIR) system. Status information for published applications may be obtained from either Private PAIR or Public PAIR. Status information for unpublished applications is available through Private PAIR only. For more information about the PAIR system, see <http://pair-direct.uspto.gov>. Should you have questions on access to the Private PAIR system, contact the Electronic Business Center (EBC) at 866-217-9197 (toll-free).

Ellen. Tran
Patent Examiner
Technology Center 2134
10 February 2006


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